

Ministry of Transportation

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December 16, 2011

Jeff Gerard
1039 Eastbourne Avenue
LaSalle, Ontario
N9H 1B6

Mr. Gerard:

Re: Windsor-Essex Parkway

I am writing in response to the November 17, 2011 letter provided to the Ministry on your behalf by Dr. Sangeet Kathuria. The letter outlines some specific concerns associated with your newborn triplets and their exposure to "excessive environmental pollution" associated with the construction of the Windsor-Essex Parkway (the "Parkway").

Firstly, I would like to congratulate you and your family on the arrival of your newborn daughters.

Potential changes in air quality associated with the Parkway were examined at length during the Detroit River International Crossing Study and are documented in the Environmental Assessment (EA) Report completed for the project. The air quality and human health risk assessments completed as part of the EA concluded that the Parkway will not result in an increased health risk. In fact, owing to improved vehicle emissions in the future and the anticipated significant improvements in traffic flow, overall air quality in the immediate vicinity of the Parkway is expected to improve.

With respect to the construction phase of the project, changes in air quality and the health risks associated with those changes were examined for the initial construction phase of the project and, the Windsor-Essex Mobility Group (WEMG) is currently examining the balance of the construction activities. The health risk assessment completed for the initial construction works concluded that the risks to the neighbouring communities are no different from those associated with any other large construction project in Ontario. The human health risk assessment that is currently being completed by WEMG will be completed in early 2012 and made available for public review at that time.

Among the concerns specifically cited in Dr. Kathuria's letter was that of dust. The approved EA report contemplates the effects to air quality associated with dust both during and after construction of the Parkway. Various mitigation measures will be employed during construction to minimize adverse air quality effects such as dust impacts through the use of proper controls such as:

- Periodic watering of unpaved (vegetated) areas;
- Periodic watering of stockpiles;
- Limiting speed of vehicular travel;
- Use of water sprays during loading and unloading of materials;
- Sweeping and/or water flushing of the entrances to construction zones; and,
- Use of calcium chloride.

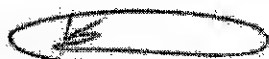
Another of the concerns cited in the letter was that of noise. As with any construction activity, the approved EA report recognizes that construction associated with the Parkway will generate some noise. The following mitigation measures were included in the EA report and will be undertaken to mitigate noise during the construction phase:

- Ensuring that all construction equipment used is in good repair, fitted with functioning mufflers, and complies with the noise emission standards outlined in MOE guidelines;
- To the greatest extent possible, limit the most noisy construction activities to daytime hours within the terms of municipal noise by-laws and any further specific municipal restrictions ;
- Maximize the distance between construction staging areas and nearby receptors to the greatest extent possible; and,
- Maintain construction haul roads to prevent potholes and ruts to avoid loud noise caused by construction vehicles traveling over uneven road surfaces.

While the concerns documented in the letter have been considered, the Ministry is confident that the mitigation measures documented in the EA will address these issues. As such, your property is not under consideration for purchase at this time.

If you have any questions regarding the health risk assessment or if you have other construction concerns, I encourage you to contact the WEMG Public Liaison Office at 1-877-WE-PKWAY.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, enclosed within a hand-drawn oval. The signature appears to be "Kevin DeVos".

Kevin DeVos, C.E.T.
Senior Project Manager